

## Senate Resolution 1061

By: Senators Jackson of the 24th, Powell of the 23rd and Grant of the 25th

## A RESOLUTION

1 Celebrating the life of James Roy "Pop" Lewis and dedicating a highway in his memory; and  
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, James Roy "Pop" Lewis will always be remembered by the citizens of Lincoln  
4 County for his many contributions to the community and to the world of bluegrass and  
5 gospel music; and

6 WHEREAS, he was born in Pickens, South Carolina, on September 22, 1905, and at the age  
7 of five years old, he moved to Lincoln County, Georgia; and

8 WHEREAS, on October 25, 1925, at the age of 20, he eloped with the former Pauline  
9 Holloway with whom he had eight children; and

10 WHEREAS, through his leadership, The Lewis Family, also known as the "First Family of  
11 Bluegrass Gospel," moved from singing on front porches in the late 1940's to performing in  
12 such places as the Lincoln Center in New York City; the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville,  
13 Tennessee; and the Baird Auditorium at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C.; and

14 WHEREAS, The Lewis Family holds the record for the longest running gospel music show  
15 in America, airing for 38 years from 1954 to 1992 on WJBF in Augusta, Georgia; and

16 WHEREAS, Pop Lewis received numerous awards including his induction into the Georgia  
17 Music Hall of Fame in 1992, his induction into the Southern Gospel Music Association Hall  
18 of Fame in 2000, the Distinguished Achievement Award from the International Bluegrass  
19 Music Association in 2001, and a Lifetime Achievement Award from *SGN Scoops*  
20 *Magazine*; and

21 WHEREAS, on the sad day of March 24, 2004, at the age of 98, Mr. Lewis departed this life.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
2 GEORGIA that, in memory of a life well lived, the portion of SR 378 in Lincoln County,  
3 Georgia, between the city limits of the City of Lincolnton and the Wilkes County boundary,  
4 be dedicated as the James Roy "Pop" Lewis Memorial Highway.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
6 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of James Roy "Pop" Lewis  
7 and the Department of Transportation.